

as a shooting box. His principal residence is in the West of England and he only lives here in the sporting season.

It rains to-day without ceasing. Here are at present nothing but shooting dandies ; Lord Kokeby, Henry Berkeley, and Whyte Melville. . . . "We dine at half past six and there is a constant breakfast — the only rule, as Maxse says, being that it is expected that his guests will endeavour to breakfast before he dines: there is no end of horses, guns, and dogs and a very large company of London servants. All you have to do is to give your orders without delicacy. Lady Caroline is amiable, and has four beautiful and interesting children, to whom she is devoted.

I see by the *Globe* of last night that the forthcoming *Edinburgh* has an article on 'Disraeli's Novels' — I suppose to assist my parliamentary *debut*. Very kind of the Whigs. I am, however, perfectly callous. . . .

I will write when there is matter for a letter; but if it rains I doubt whether there will be. At any rate I shall not stay here longer than I can help. In the course of my travelling down I passed many famous places, Ockham (Lord King's), Loseley House, and Sutton Place, but the latter was so embosomed in trees I could not distinguish it: all this on the high road.

Your affectionate,

D.¹

WOOLBBDING,

[Oct. 26(?).]

MY DEAREST,

Yesterday Lady Caroline drove me to Cowdray, Mr. Poyntz's, in one of the most brilliant equipages I ever witnessed. Her poneys, for such they are styled though they are 15 hands high, are thoroughbred, and worthy of George the Fourth, as well as her carriage, which is of cane on a frame of a peculiarly brilliant and rich green; she has two outriders, and the moment there is the slightest elevation the poneys break into a gallop of their own accord to the fear and astonishment of all passengers. She is, however, a good whip and knows her cattle and country...

Cowdray is one of the most magnificent demesnes in England. Poyntz has about 25,000 acres. The old Tudor Hall which you approach from Midhurst by an avenue was burnt down many years ago and is now only a picturesque ruin; but in the most favored spot of the park, surrounded

i Brit. Mus. Addit. MSB.